(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government and what further steps are proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, the Government has seen the news item.

(b) Yes.

(c) The following steps are taken by the Government:—

(1) A cell has been established in the Directorate General of Health Services to coordinate AIDS Control activity in the country.

(2) 26 surveillance centres have been established in the country to screen high risk group.

(3) All these centres have been provided with diagnostic reagents and equipment package have also been provided to most of them.

(4) Restrictions have been imposed for import of blood and blood products without AIDS clearance certificate.

(5) All the State Health Authorities| Hospitals STD clinics have been alerted to look for AIDS.

(6) All the blood banks have been instructed to screen the professional blood donors.

(7) All the State Health Authorities have been advised to ensure strict sterilisation practices in hospitals and clinics and to use pre-sterilised disposable syringes and needles as far as possible.

(8) Guidelines have been sent to all the State Health Authorities for Health care personnel.

(9) All the mass media channels have been involved in educating the people on AIDS, its nature, transmission and prevention.

(10) Regarding foreign students the following instructions have been issued:—

(a) All the foreign students are to to be screened (new and old admissions)

(b) The foreign students should subject themselves for health check to the nearest civil surgeon|CMOH| Suptd. of District Hospital for the purpose.

Heat Ray Technique to Treat Cancer Patients

257. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a newsitem which appeared in Indian Express of 20th January, 1987 under the caption "Heat ray technique to treat cancer";

(b) whether the Hyperthemia technique has since been introduced in the AIIMS;

(c) whether any research has been conducted by Government about this technique; and

(d) if so, the extent to which the new technique is likely to be helpful for the cancer patients?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (b) and (c) above.